

DAVISVILLE Junior Public School Parent Council Meeting

TUESDAY MAY 14THTH 2019, 7PM

GLEBE – 20 GLEBE ROAD EAST

In Attendance: Heidi Kerney (Co-Chair), Shona Farrelly (Principal), Cathy Macina (Vice Principal) Christine Kilby, Tanya Murdoch, Dan Collins, Julie Kelk, Melissa Gould Wise, Morgan Hedges, Farah Namazi, Josette Lamoureux, Alison Stanley, Lynne LeBlanc, Beata Strzyzewska, Shana Shubs, Renata Vaccaro, Amber Lepage-Monette, Anya Laskin, Wynsome Walker, Anne Mullins

WELCOME, LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND INTRODUCTIONS

"We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognise the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples."

PRINCIPALS REPORT – SHONA FARRELLY and CATHY MACINA

Thank you SO much to our parents who hosted another spectacular staff appreciation luncheon and draw last week. It means so much to the staff and they look forward to it every year. The "Dragon cookies" were a great addition. There was a great deal of food left over. We were able to invite the Infant Program staff to join us and I brought a tray of the yummy sandwiches to my PD meeting at Hodgson that afternoon. You made a lot of people very happy. We hope you will join us on Friday June 14th at 10:30 in the staffroom so we can appreciate you!! If you haven't yet emailed Shivani to let her know you are attending, please do so asap. We want to ensure we have accurate numbers.

Mental Health Awareness Week – we did activities every day including a Zen Den on Friday as a culmination activity. All classes were invited to participate. For next year, we are looking into making Zen Den days a regular monthly occurrence. The school will pick up the costs to run this program. All lessons will be designed to help students develop more mental health, develop a common language with an end goal (still to be determined by the Mental Health and Awareness Committee). We are also looking at adding a mental health component to each monthly character education assembly. We are also looking into school wide programs we can bring in to support this (like X Movement). I attended a Suicide Prevention and Intervention workshop a few weeks ago. Brandon and Cathy will be attending soon. The focus is on Middle Schools, but there are some great strategies that will help students in both schools. Spectrum will be participating in a pilot project next year using Harry Potter and Cognitive Behaviour Therapy. We are excited about our new initiatives. Thanks to the parents who are supporting this as committee members.

Staffing update – as many of you may be aware, the Ministry Grants were significantly less than in previous years. We have also lost some students to independent schools, other programs within TDSB and to the Catholic system. This means we have had a reduction in the amount of staff we have for next year. As it currently stands, we will lose 3.5 teaching positions for next year. With the teacher's permission, I can share with you that we are losing Dan Schenkman, Minna Waugh, Erin Reinelt and a half of Shalu Arora. Shalu is currently sitting in a central role which may not exist next year, so she will return to us half time. Please note that this also means we have fewer staff to do outdoor duty, bus duty and to run extra programs for students. Please also note that we have no choice about whom we lose and who we keep as this is all done simply through seniority.

Lunch programs next year – we have shortened our lunch hour next year to 55 minutes versus the 110 minutes this year. This year we extended the lunch hour to accommodate extra-curricular programs that used to run after school. This meant a longer school day. We have heard from parents that this year's schedule negatively impacts their ability to get their children to their paid programs outside of school. We also looked at the data around who attends the extra-curricular programs at our school. The data was quite revealing. It showed us that students in our English stream, and students in our English and French Junior classes do not attend these programs. The only groups that do attend are students in French Kindergarten French Primary stream and many of those families overlap. We haven't had a chance to share the data with Council yet but we would like to sit and discuss how we can alter the programs for next year so that all students are taking advantage of the programs. This could look like a school wide afternoon of activities (like the Zen Den) on a regular basis or simply reducing the programs to once a week. Nothing has been decided at this point, but it is worth a discussion.

Graduation – will take place on Monday June 24th at 1:00 pm. It will be a joint grade 5 and 6 graduation. In the past we have had parents of the “incoming graduating class” host the cake and water afterwards. I haven't heard from any of the parents about whether or not this is still taking place.

Dental Screening is taking place June 13 – 17th. A form will be coming home for you to sign if you do NOT want your child to participate.

Classes are preparing for EQAO testing for end of May. Children will be accommodated as needed and be given breaks and extra snack.

Cathy Macina notes an increase in teachers making more use of technology. There are also some children with “C Claims” where kids require their own computer, we have 2 students currently under this claim.

Teachers taking on using tech: Cathy sees everyone getting on board. Some C claims: child needs a computer all the time, 2 kids using full time.

TEACHERS' REPORT – FAY CHANG

From all Staff: Thank you so much for the wonderful luncheon last Friday. Everything was delicious and the staff room has never looked better. To quote Lisa Potter "It was one of the best staff appreciation lunches ever!!"

Leona Breslaw: Earth week was a huge success! We made approximately \$1600 from the used book sale and the bake sale. Part of the proceeds will go to Earth Rangers. We want to continue with the Throwback Thursday Lunches until the end of the year. Also the milk crate garden was put in on Monday and looks great.

Ms Francesca: We had 39 Gr. 4-6 students competing in over 50 events, Davisville finished in the Top 8 in 30 of these events (which is pretty awesome since there is at least 16 competitors per event). Students finished in the TOP 3 places qualified for the South Conference Final on June 3, they are: Mia Kim (2nd in 1500m), Ethan Gallagher (1st in 80m, 1st in 400m, 2nd in Relay), Shawqi Mousa (1st in 400m, 2nd in Relay), Grade 4 Boys Relay (Ethan, Julien, Prahadeesh Venkatesh and Noah Lee (2nd place). Also our Co-Ed Ultimate Frisbee team (21 Gr. 5-6) will be participating in an inter-school tournament at Carlton Village along with 4 other schools. Lastly although we have had a Primary Run/Jump/Throw meet every year for the last 3 years I don't know that I will be able to organize it again this year. Let me know if you have any questions.

Patricia Chong: Code Mobile from Canada Learning Code came to Davisville today and hosted coding workshops for the junior classes. Students learned the basics of Scratch to create animations and more. Patricia's class has been working on a video game project on Scratch for the month. They presented their games at the Coding Quest Arcade at York University last week. Also they attended the GO North 2019, a STEM conference at the University of Toronto. It was sponsored by Google and ACTUA. This year's theme was artificial intelligence. Today Patricia's Grade 5's were able to share their learning and taught some grade 3 students how to code their own Google doodles. I am in the process of organizing a day at the school where I can invite other classes to see my students' coding projects, which also include VR websites. I have also taught my class how to use Scratch Jr. on the iPads. Each member of my class created a short project on 3D shapes.

Patricia Heath: Information shared re: a Residential Summer Music Camp being offered by the TDSB for students from Grade 5-9. She received these application forms last week and she wanted me to share them with you. She also wanted me to share a flyer from the Electric Moon Theatre company. They offer plays as well as workshops.

Nancy Rawlinson: Parents please check the Lost and Found tables on Thursday when coming for the Spring Concert. The number of items on the table continue to grow. We would love it if the items could find their way home. Also a reminder to put the child's full name in or on clothing, initials are not enough information. When there is a name on the clothing Nancy will bring it down to Laurie who will place in the students teachers mailbox.

Question about Island School this year. Island School is set for June 17-19 for English Grade 5, June 19-21 for French Grade 5/6. Administration is still working on staffing for the trips.

TREASURERS' REPORT – JULIE KELK

As of April 30, approx 36.5K

See attached

CHAIR REPORT – HEIDI KERNEY

FUN FAIR: June 1, 4-8pm fun fair: will be sending volunteer sign up for activities . Centered around community BBQ,

Successes w/ council: 600\$ raised for vision program. Kids going on a field trip to AGO

TDSB VISION PROGRAM SUCCESS: \$600 raised for vision program. Kids going on a field trip to AGO

EARTH WEEK INITIATIVES SUCCESS – TANYA MURDOCH

Parent lead b/w tanya and beats book fair, bookmarks and up cycled notebooks, also donations from other schools, made \$1320. Passing on more books to another schools book fair. Bake sale splitting money to earth rangers and school, monies going to rain barrels

CONCERT DVDs – TANYA MURDOCH

DVD's for sale, available via download. Someone needs to do videoing as Tanya wont be with us next year

STAFF LUNCHEON SUCCESS – WYNSOME WALKER

Add it was successful, thanks to all who gave food, teachers were happy, and loved the raffle, it looked like a nice lunch . on teachers said it was the best staff lunch ever. Several people who took on picking up and getting stuff up there. Amie Luckock got kids to write on sticky notes, and made a poster. Reminder to include all staff not just teachers.

COMMUNITY GARDEN – HEIDI KERNEY

Brought in via Eco Club and a classroom, (Bowery Project), a recycled milk crate garden, other TDSB schools and independent schools have used the same program also, centered around urban

farming, watering garden by rain barrels, partnering with a community group through OVNAP who have a gardening group who will help maintain our garden through the summer. Can be brought back to new school, green roof. Funded by TDSB donation that Shona allocated toward this. Additional funds offered by Eco club.

Shona Farrelly: Does anyone have a canoe they aren't using? David Suzuki butterfly garden in old canoe is worn, not working.

SILENT AUCTION – MELISSA WISE

Donation requests well under way. Please Invite anyone to participate. Asking for help with raffle items. Silent auction exclusively online so we want to expand the raffle. Any unused toys/housewares, cookbooks, frames etc. Looking for experiences, approached businesses. Intending on class art crafts to auction off.

BY-LAWS – CHRISTINE KILBY

Completed another draft of by-laws, comments received have been incorporated as possible. Recommended to have one more round of input. Recommended that hard copies be provided and also an available link. Need to have 2 officers to run/organize elections etc by end of year.

Motion to approve April Meeting minutes: Morgan Hedges, seconded by Wynsome Walker, Amber Lepage-Monette

Motion to adjourn: Tanya Murdoch, Seconded by Julie Kelk.

Meeting adjourned 8:33pm

Next meeting June 11.